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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Proposed Settlement

I am appalled that my government would wash its hands in these proceedings. The courts have ruled that Microsoft *is* a monopoly. Microsoft has and continues to use its position as a monopoly to fight down the innovators and to retain its position as a monopoly. As we continue to let Microsoft have its way, we are endangering our position as true leaders in the technology world. A real solution to the stifling effect of Microsoft's illegal monopoly would be something that would keep Microsoft from continuing its ways.

I have read the settle and accompanying documents. I have also read the settlement Microsoft signed in the mid-90s. They are very similar. And, they both have the same effect: Microsoft admits it was a bad citizen and continues as if it hadn't been caught.

Now, with Microsoft's new initiatives, this dominance and arrogance is even more threatening. If I buy Windows XP, I am *required* to register with Microsoft's .net service.... Okay, I am not required to, but I won't be able to use the software beyond 30 days. Let's say I want to check my stock portfolio on CNBC's web site. I must join the .net initiative, thereby giving Microsoft access to much of my financial background (and they already have my name, address, and phone number from my software registration. Order a book at a merchant that requires .net authentication? More information to Microsoft. At some point, Microsoft will know everything about me. This is scary. This is the pattern Microsoft has continually used throughout its lifetime (did you know that when you registered Windows 95 online, you sent a list of the entire contents of your hard drive to Microsoft?).

Can we trust these people, based on their promise this time they really will be good? Let's look at past practices and we will see they are not to be trusted. Let's try to find a solution that will keep Microsoft from abusing its position again. And again. And again.

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